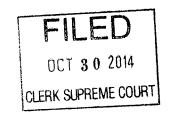
In the Supreme Court of Iowa



Revisions to Expedited)	
Civil Action Rule and	j	Order
Recent Amendments to)	
Iowa Discovery Rules)	

By order dated August 28, 2014, the supreme court approved new Iowa Court Rule 1.281, governing expedited civil actions (ECA), and new rule 1.500 and amendments to rules 1.413, 1.501, 1.503, 1.504, 1.505, 1.507, 1.508, 1.509, 1.512, 1.517, 1.701, 1.708, and 1.906, governing discovery and pretrial procedures. The court also amended court rules 23.2(1) and 23.2(2) and the trial scheduling forms provided in rule 23.5.

The August 28 order noted that the state court administrator has appointed a case management committee, chaired by Chief Judge Marlita Greve of the Seventh Judicial District, to assist in implementation of the ECA rule and discovery amendments. Chief Judge Greve's committee recommends that the trial scheduling and discovery plan forms 2 and 3 in rule 23.5 be separated from the court order implementing the trial scheduling and discovery dates in the forms. The original fourteen-person Advisory Committee Concerning Certain Civil Justice Reform Task Force Recommendations charged with proposing the ECA rule and discovery amendments supports this change, as does the supreme court.

The court now approves minor, nonsubstantive changes, provided with this order, to the following:

- 1. ECA Rule 1.281: Striking "Order" from the reference to Iowa Court Rule 23.5—Form 3 in rule 1.281(1)(d); and clarifying that the ECA rule on time limit for trial applies to civil actions tried to the court in rule 1.281(4)(f).
- 2. Discovery rule amendments: Deleting "Order" from references to Rule 23.5—Form 2, now titled "Trial Scheduling and Discovery Plan," in rules 1.500

and 1.507; making minor wording changes to clarify parts of the comments to rules 1.500(3)(a) and (b); clarifying the last sentence of the comment to rule 1.507; clarifying the last two sentences of rule 1.906; and adding a comment to rule 1.906.

3. Rule 1.901—Form 18 and Rule 23.5—Forms 1-3: Removing "Order" from form titles and internal form references; and revising instructional language on the forms to accommodate this change.

Pursuant to the provisions of Iowa Code section 602.4202, the revisions identified in this order, with the ECA rule, discovery amendments, chapter one forms, and chapter 23 rule amendments and forms, will take effect January 1, 2015. All actions filed on or after January 1, 2015, will be subject to the new rules and forms.

In addition, as set forth previously in the court's August 28 order, the discovery amendments will apply to all previously-commenced cases *pending* on or after January 1, 2015, except for Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.500 (required disclosures), Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.505(1) (timing of discovery), Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.507 (discovery conference), Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.508 (expert discovery), and Iowa R. Civ. P. 1.906 (civil trial setting conference), provided further that the district court may in any case direct the parties to comply with all or part of those rules as part of a pretrial order. Furthermore, the district court may, upon stipulation of the parties, direct that an action commenced prior to January 1, 2015, proceed as an expedited civil action.

Dated this 30th day of October, 2014.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice